



University of Southern Indiana

University Notes

Wendy Bredhold, editor • 812/461-5259 • Brandi Schwartz, editorial associate • 812/465-1192

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Twenty-five year employees to be honored on Founders Day

The annual Founders Day Ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. Thursday, September 15, in Mitchell Auditorium in the Health Professions Center. The ceremony will honor 25-year employees **John Baburnich**, student records data manager in the Office of the Registrar; **William Henderson**, assistant professor of computer information systems; **Douglas Hubbell**, associate professor of theatre; **Joyce Lasher**, senior payroll assistant in Human Resources; **Rose Scruggs**, library associate in Library Services; and **Julia Yancey**, manager of payroll in Human Resources.

John Baburnich began his USI career in the Computer Center working in data control. Three years later he transferred to Student Services as a systems application specialist and later was appointed to student records data manager in the Office of the Registrar. He is currently involved in his third major software conversion and is a member of the student process team and data standards committee. He also is the publisher and editor of the electronic magazine *The Boneyard*, which has thousands of readers in 16 countries and has featured the talents of dozens of members of the USI family.

William Henderson joined the University as an instructor of economics in 1979 and rejoined the University as an assistant professor of computer information systems in 1983. He is assistant dean of the College of Business and assistant professor of computer information systems. He is currently serving on the Bachelor of General Studies advisory committee, Intercollegiate Athletic Board, and Student Financial Assistance advisory and appeals committee. He also is a member of the Indiana Statewide Transfer and Articulation committee. He is the long time official timer for the USI women's basketball team. He is a 1972 graduate of University of Kentucky with a Master of Arts degree in economics and a 1983 graduate of Indiana University with a Master of Science degree in computer science.

Douglas Hubbell, associate professor of theatre, joined the University as an assistant professor of communications/theatre in fall 1980. He has served as the head of the Theatre program (1980-1987) and on the committee and initial teaching staff that started the Humanities Core courses at USI in 1987. As an actor and designer, he appeared in the first production (Summer 1988) that began USI's association with New Harmony Theatre. During his tenure at USI, he has designed and painted 65 productions and appeared in several independent films, including "Sacred Hearts," "Bar Types," "Cupid," and, recently, "Symbiotica." His professional associations include memberships in the American Theatre Association and the American Society for Theatre Research. Hubbell holds a Ph.D. and Master of Arts degree in theatre from Indiana University.

Joyce Lasher joined the University as a library clerk and worked there until 1988, when she transferred to Media Services. In 1998, she transferred to Human Resources, where she is senior payroll assistant. She was a member of the USI Secretary and Associates Club (now the Administrative Assistants and

Associates) and served two terms on the Staff Council.

Rose Scruggs, library associate, joined the University as a Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) worker, after graduating from the University of Evansville with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. She became a full-time employee of the University in 1980, continuing to work in the Library's Circulation department, then Serials, and now overseeing the Learning Resources Center. She is a member of the Affirmative Action committee, has been a past representative and chair of the Staff Council, and is a member of Administrative Assistants and Associates.

Julia Yancey joined the University in Human Resources as a payroll clerk, was promoted to supervisor in 1988, and to manager of payroll in 1998. She was active in the USI Secretary and Associates Club (now the Administrative Assistants and Associates) and Staff Council. She is a 1994 USI graduate with an associate's degree in business administration.

The University will celebrate its 40th anniversary with several events September 15. At 11 a.m., there will be a dedication ceremony for a flag display donated to Residence Life by VFW Post 1114 at the Fair Residence Life Office. The VFW Color Guard, Residence Life students, and USI's ROTC unit will participate and the ROTC unit will raise the national colors on the new flag pole. A cornerstone and time capsule will be placed at the construction site of the new David L. Rice Library at 1:30 p.m.

Immediately following the cornerstone placement, there will be a birthday celebration for the University community in the University Center Mall, with birthday cake, ice cream, and entertainment by Rowan Tree, a Celtic group featuring **Dan Craig**, assistant professor of music, **Randall Pease**, instructor in English, and Beth Reasoner. Faculty, staff and students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

An exhibit celebrating the University's anniversary is on display through the fall semester in the McCutchan Gallery in the Wright Administration Building.

Visit the University's 40th anniversary Web pages for more information at www.usi.edu/1965/.



McGarrah returns to Vietnam

This summer, **Jim McGarrah**, assistant professor of English, returned to Vietnam for the first time since he was wounded during the Tet Offensive in 1968. McGarrah was a Marine serving with a special unit south of the Imperial City of Hue.

"The unit I was in was called a combined action group," he said. "We actually lived with a community and worked with their popular forces, a type of militia. We trained them in counter-insurgency, weapons, and military tactics, and also ran operations out of the suburbs in Hue."

During the battle for Hue, McGarrah received bullet and shrapnel wounds in his leg and shoulder. After three months in

hospitals in Tokyo and Chicago, he went home to Princeton, Indiana. He returned to Kentucky Wesleyan College, where he had gone to school on a baseball scholarship before joining the Marine Corps, and studied sociology for three years.

After struggling with post-traumatic stress disorder and working at several different jobs, McGarrah decided he wanted to write. He attended USI and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts in Liberal Science degree. Later, he earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in creative writing from Vermont College.

Now, he is working on a memoir about his experiences in Vietnam. He received a Faculty Research and Creative Work Award from the University to return to Vietnam in August.

He was put in contact with Vo Que, a national poet and minister for art and literature in Hue, through the William Joiner Center for War and Social Consequences in Boston, Massachusetts. When McGarrah arrived in Vietnam, the two exchanged poems about peace in a formal ceremony. The exchange of poems is a custom among Vietnamese poets.

"I read mine out loud in English, and he sang his for me – they sing their poems, they don't read them – and an interpreter translated both ways," McGarrah said. "While he and I were face to face, we were able to talk through the interpreter about the poetic meanings."

McGarrah said the 13,000-mile trip was physically difficult. "I'm almost 60 years old now," he said. "I was 20 last time. But mentally and emotionally, it was an enlightening and wonderful trip. There was some healing involved, as well, especially when I met and spent several days with Vo Que. He was in the North Vietnamese army at the same time I was there in the Marine Corps, on the other side."

McGarrah hopes to have his book completed by spring 2006.

Peace

by *Jim McGarrah*

A small green fruit grows
only from the earth in Hue. Seeded
by the Trai Va tree, it rises round
and moist in soil blood-red with memories.

I share it now with my friend
Vo Que at the Garden Café
just off a dirt trail in this city where
my heart stopped singing
so many years ago, silenced
in a battle to claim what was never mine.

Que and I are two poets grown old
by sharing one dream from different worlds.

Here, in this jungle heat beneath lavender
blossoms and banyan trees that once shaded
tanks, rifles, mines, and death,
we speak of hope. A voice within
us both chants in counterpoint harmony
beyond our separate tongues. Sometimes,
it makes the rustle of a spring rain,

the cry of geese in the gray dawn,
the whistle of wet wind through bamboo,
the drum of the Perfume River
beating ceaselessly on the stones of shore.
Sometimes, it whispers like a child's smile
or the sunrise cracking a robin's egg sky.

I have traveled ten thousand miles
And decades through tormented time,
through shattered space to hear
this voice rise within me once more
as I share a simple meal
with my friend, who, like the trai va,
no longer bears me malice for crimes
I committed in my youth.



Largest freshman class in USI history

USI is enrolling the largest freshman class in its history, with 2,148 new freshmen in fall 2005. The University is recording strong growth in retention from freshman to sophomore year, the highest full-time equivalency rate, and the highest credit hour production in its history.

The University also has its third-largest number of transfer students, at 663 students, this semester. Over 7,600 undergraduate and graduate students, 76 percent of the students, are full-time students.

Rob Parrent, vice president for Student Affairs, said, "USI's success in attracting, retaining and graduating an increasingly strong student body is directly related to stellar faculty and staff who unselfishly commit themselves to making this a student-centered and student-focused university."

He continued, "Teaching excellence; approachable professors; research opportunities; internships and co-ops; student engagement; school spirit; assistance with move-in; greeting at welcome tents; friendly and competent security; beautifully maintained grounds; cutting edge technology; providing directions during class change; enviable residence living and programming; phone campaigns, e-mails and snail mail to targeted students; and a commitment to exceptional service are but a few of the many ways faculty and staff directly impact student success.

"USI is fortunate to have such dedicated professionals who make a difference for students each and every day."

The University has employed several strategies to improve retention of students from freshman to sophomore year, and the statistics, an increase of 8.5 percent, show that those strategies are working. The retention growth is seen in the increase of 145 sophomores over last year's sophomore class.

USI graduated 1,500 students, the largest class ever, in spring 2005, so officials expected the number of upper class and graduate students to be smaller than in 2004. Junior class figures are up by 76 and the senior class is 52 students fewer than last year's class. Graduate students decreased by 81, but individual graduate programs are up for Master of Social Work, Master of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, and Master of Public Administration.

The majority of the students (49.5 percent, or 4,943 students) come from Vanderburgh and contiguous counties. The number of students from area counties and other Indiana counties continues

to increase, with 1,245 students coming from area counties and 2,733 students from Indiana counties not in southern Indiana. All 92 Indiana counties are represented in the student body.

The number of Hispanic students has increased slightly. Minority and international students represent 6.6 percent of the students with African American students comprising 4.2 percent.

Students are enrolled in a record 121,644 credit hours. Female students represent 61 percent of the students. The enrollment report also shows traditional-age students are in the majority (7,742) and students 25 and over number 2,262. Total enrollment is 10,004.



Web Tips: Putting the "Comprehensive" in the Comprehensive Calendar

By Ed Scharf, Web developer

How many times have you worked to plan a campus event, but were disappointed at the turnout? How often have you tacked your flyer up on a bulletin board only to see it enveloped in a sea of advertisements and postings? Don't despair. There is hope. The comprehensive calendar on the USI Web site now loads current events and important academic deadlines onto the "Campus Events" section of the redesigned home page when the sponsor adds the information to the online calendar.

For a few years now, USI's Web site has had a comprehensive calendar of campus events linked from the old home page, but user testing told us that it was hidden and, therefore, underutilized and a bit less than "comprehensive." As the number of events and important dates on campus continues to grow, the Web site will highlight, by the hour, events on campus for the current and following day.

Of course, if entertainment tabloid culture has taught us anything, no event can publicize itself. The event/meeting/deadline/etc. and all of its associated information should be manually entered by the sponsoring group into the comprehensive calendar located at https://www.usi.edu/webservices/calendar_03/index.asp. A detailed description of how to submit an event can be found by clicking "How to Use..." and click the "Submit an event" link.

Anyone with a MyUSI username and password can enter the information by clicking "Sign In" in the upper right hand corner. There are, however, a few guidelines each posting must meet:

- Events must be associated with USI, its colleges, departments, and programs.
- Calendar submissions should be event oriented rather than news items.
- Reminders and other follow-up submissions are not permitted
- Events must affect more than just the members of an individual department. For example, a departmental staff meeting is not appropriate; however, the spring faculty meeting is appropriate.
- Student organizations may submit events on the condition that the event has been approved by the organization's advisor prior to submission.

The event will then appear on the comprehensive calendar until its scheduled date passes. The calendar is directly accessible in a number of ways from the home page:

1. Clicking a listed event
2. The "More" link under "Campus Events"
3. The "Calendar" option on the blue "Faculty," "Alumni," and "Community" drop down menus at the top of the page
4. The "Calendar" option under the "Everything @ USI" list

The USI home page pulls events for the current and following day and lists three at a time in chronological order. All day events are listed as "ALL DAY" and remain at the top of the list while others drop off upon completion.

Any questions about the design or functionality of the calendar should be directed to webserv@usi.edu.



Housing and meal plan rates approved

Approval of 2006-07 housing rates and meal plan rates was an agenda item when the University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met on Thursday, September 8 in New Harmony, Indiana.

The board approved a \$32 per semester increase over last year's rates for students in apartments and in the residence halls on campus, and between \$30 and \$77 increases for meal plans depending on what options are selected.

"Containing costs for students is of great concern for the Board of Trustees," said USI **President H. Ray Hoops**. "These modest increases will allow for normal increases in food and labor costs, while continuing the high quality of services we offer to every student. We are committed to keeping USI's total cost of attendance among the lowest in the state as we seek to provide affordable excellence."

In the apartments and in the residence halls, two students per bedroom, will each pay \$1,617 in 2006-07. The residence halls include Newman Hall, Governors Hall, O'Bannon Hall, and Ruston Hall.

The Red Eagle Plan, the most inclusive meal plan, will increase to \$1,629 in 2006-07 from \$1,599 this year. A White Eagle Plan and a Blue Eagle Plan, each with different food options, also are available to students.

In other business, the board approved early retirement for three faculty members. **C. William Stegemoller**, associate professor of mathematics, will retire effective May 6, 2007. Early retirement also was approved for **John H. Gottcent**, professor of English, on December 16, 2006, and **Sherry B. Darrell**, professor of English, on May 11, 2008. Each will be given an appropriate emeritus/emerita title.

The board approved the emeritus title, effective March 21, 2005, for **Dr. Jerome R. Cain**, who resigned as dean of the Pott College of Science and Engineering. He remains as professor of biology.



Names in the news

In sympathy

The University community extends sympathy to **Gina Schaar**, instructor in nursing, whose father, **Wade Hobgood**, died on Wednesday, August 31. Memorial contributions may be made to Deaconess/Ohio Valley Hospice Care, 600 Mary Street, Evansville, Indiana, 47747, or at Howell General Baptist Church, 1520 Delmar Ave, Evansville, Indiana. 47712. Condolences may be made online at www.mem.com.

Welcome

Jason R. Baldwin has accepted a position as instructor of art. He was an adjunct assistant professor at the University of Mississippi and a visiting professor at the Memphis College of Art. He has a Master of Fine Art degree from the University of Mississippi and a Bachelor of Fine Art degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He is a member of the College Art Association, Mid-America Print Council, and Southeastern College Art Conference.

Jo Kirch has accepted a position as instructor of sociology. She was an assistant professor at Mountain State University. She is a doctoral candidate in sociology and has a Master of Art degree in sociology from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She has a Bachelor of Art degree in sociology from State University of New York Fredonia and an associate degree in human services from Jamestown Community College. She is a member of the American Sociological Association.

Accomplishments

Jim McGarrah, assistant professor of English, was invited to read his poetry at the Vilenica International Literary Festival, September 6-11, in Slovenia, the Balkans. Twenty-six poets and writers representing 20 countries were invited to participate. McGarrah represented USI and the United States.

In appreciation

"I would like to extend a huge 'thank you' to the USI community for its warm support following the loss of my father, Edward Reidford. Your thoughts, prayers, and acts of kindness have made a very difficult time much more comforting. I appreciate it! - **Jon Reidford**, coordinator of computer and Internet services, College of Nursing and Health Professions.



FYI

Faculty and students attended Shakespeare Festival

Sherry Bevins Darrell, professor of English and director of Humanities, and **Eric von Fuhrmann**, associate professor of English, took a group of students to see four plays at the Shakespeare Festival Stratford, in Ontario, Canada, September 1-4. The group included these students: **Candace Thomas, Katie Jones, Craig Fehrman, J. P. Greenwell, Daniel Frank, Clinton Omohundro, Gina Lawson, Jessica Vogel, Leah Harness, Gayle Jessie, Carrie Dillard, and Brooke Arterberry**. In addition to Tennessee Williams's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, they saw Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*, *The Tempest*, and *As You Like It*.

Children's Center has openings

The USI Children's Center has several full- and part-time openings for three-, four-, and five-year-olds. Services are available first to students, staff, and faculty. Any remaining openings are available for the community. For more information, contact **Pam Buschkill**, Children's Center coordinator, or **Joyce Coleman**, family specialist, at 812/464-1869.

Disclosure of conflicts of interest

Under the Indiana "conflicts of interest" law, University employees are required to file disclosure statements stating any financial interest which the individual may have in any University contract or purchase. The responsibility for filing dis-

closure statements rests on the person with the potential conflict of interest. Copies of the *Conflicts of Interest: Compliance Disclosure Requirements* and the disclosure statements are available in the Office of Business Affairs, and may be downloaded from MyUSI under Indiana "conflicts of interest" law, found in the Personal Announcements section.

If you have questions concerning conflicts of interest and the statutory requirements, contact **Mark Rozewski**, vice president for Business Affairs, at 812/464-1849.

European tour to be led by von Fuhrmann

Eric von Fuhrmann, associate professor of English, will lead his 19th European Tour, to Spain and Morocco, March 2-13. Von Fuhrmann designed the tour, which will include stops in Madrid, Toledo, Seville, Gibraltar, Tangiers, Granada, Cordoba, and Valencia. All USI students, faculty, staff, families, friends, and friends of the University are invited to participate. The \$2,300 cost includes transportation from USI, lodging in four-star hotels and most meals. A \$450 deposit is required. For more information, see von Fuhrmann in LA 3031 or call 812/464-1749. Deposit and reservations are due by September 30.

Tenth annual Alumni Fun Golf Scramble

The 10th annual Alumni Fun Golf Scramble will be held at Helfrich Hills Golf Club on Friday, September 16.

Check-in is at 10:30 a.m. and there will be a "shotgun" start at 11:30 a.m. The entry fee is \$65 per individual or \$250 per foursome. The fee includes green fee, cart, and a sandwich lunch.

There will be prizes for women's, men's, and mixed foursomes, and a gift for every player. There also will be several contests including Hole-in-One prizes.

Helfrich Hills is located at 1550 Mesker Park Drive in Evansville. For more information, call Alumni and Volunteer Services at 812/464-1924 or email alumni@usi.edu.

Bridge players wanted

A group of faculty and staff who play bridge during the lunch hour is seeking more players. The games are the last vestige of the Faculty Club, a group that played bridge daily in The Loft. "Many players have retired. We need to recruit new players," said Linda Cleek, associate dean of Extended Services.

Anyone who would like to learn to play bridge can take courses offered by the Evansville Duplicate Bridge Club. Cleek said several USI faculty and staff are members of the club. For information about Evansville Duplicate Bridge Club lessons, contact Cal or Sallie Wade at 812/479-0117.

For information contact Cleek at 812/464-1863.

TIAA-CREF counseling sessions September 29-30

A TIAA-CREF consultant will be on-site to provide free one-on-one counseling sessions on Thursday, September 29, and Friday, September 30. Schedule an appointment to have your financial questions answered by an expert consultant. Topics might include long-term investment strategies, how to find the right investment allocation for you, new savings opportunities, or lifetime income vs. cash withdrawal options. Sign up online at <http://www.tiaa-cref.org/moc>. If you have questions, call the TIAA-CREF Indianapolis office at 877/267-4507. The sessions are 45 minutes long and will be held in Room 091 in the Orr Center.

